

baseball, the new baseball field at Yellowstone Park; and, of course, our Little League's Mr. Dwight Raiford, who is in our town. Congratulations to Mr. Drayton McLane and the Houston Astros for hosting the All-Star Game.

AMISH SHOW SHOULD BE SCRAPPED

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, UPN is making a new reality TV show about the Amish. The very act of making this show violates a fundamental Amish religious tenet, and paying a few Amish teams to participate requires them to break it.

See, the Amish believe that television or photographs themselves violate the Ten Commandments' ban on graven images. If one is selling a show based on its participants' religious identity, should they not at least respect the religious tenets of those participants and their families?

One affiliate in Pennsylvania, UPNTV15 in Harrisburg, has decided not to air the program until it previews its content. UPN15 has taken a principled and courageous stand. Its request to prescreen the show will help them ensure that the show's content does not offend its viewers. Other affiliates should follow suit, and advertisers should think twice before attaching their names to a show that potentially degrades a minority religious community.

This series would be offensive, exploitative, and inaccurately portray a minority group. It should be cancelled.

WE ARE NOT SAFER BECAUSE OF WAR WITH IRAQ

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, the world and Iraq are better off without that murderous despot Saddam Hussein in power. But the unanimous report of the Republican-led Senate Intelligence Committee refutes the Bush administration's principal premise of the war that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction. They concluded he did not, that he presented a danger. They said the sanctions were working and his military was degraded and rapidly disintegrating. No links to 9/11; yet the President said seven times in 32 minutes the American people were safer because of the war in Iraq.

He can say it, but it does not make it so. Osama bin Laden is still out there plotting and planning. We are on heightened alert. They say he is going to attack anytime soon, but he has given a bye for the last 2 years by the Bush administration because of their obsession with Iraq instead of those who attacked us on 9/11.

We are not safer because of the war in Iraq. We are in fact more at risk be-

cause Saddam Hussein was not the real threat. It was Osama bin Laden, who has had the chance to regroup, strengthen his forces, and plan new attacks because the Bush administration has not been adequately pursuing it.

MEDIA BIAS, PUTIN'S COMMON SENSE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, leave it to the former head of the KGB to inject a little common sense into the American political race, and leave it to the partisan American media to ignore it.

During the recent G-8 Summit in Georgia, Russian President Vladimir Putin said to a gathering news media: "I am deeply convinced that President Bush's political adversaries have no moral right to attack him over Iraq." I did not find this quote in the New York Times or The Washington Post because they refused to report it. I did not find it broadcast on CBS, NBC, or ABC News either. I found this quote in China Daily, straight from Beijing.

We could have found the same quote in some Russian publications as well, including Pravda and the British-based Reuters News Service. But we could not find that quote in the American media except for one outlet, CBN.

It is a sorry day for American journalism when they find themselves outbalanced by their counterparts in Communist China and Russia. It is a new low for partisan media bias.

In conclusion, may God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

NEGATIVE ADS

(Mr. CROWLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, to quote Ronald Reagan, "There they go again." Republicans have hit a new low point. The Bush campaign has run over 49,000 negative ads nationwide, and it is understandable. With the largest budget deficit in our history, a growing tax burden on our middle class, gas prices at a 23-year high, and no positive vision for our country, the GOP have no choice but to attack. They cannot talk about the economy because we have lost 1.8 million private-sector jobs under this administration. They cannot talk about health care because insurance costs are spiraling out of control and nearly 4 million more Americans have become uninsured since 2000.

So now what do they do? They blame President Clinton for the creation of 21 million private-sector jobs during his administration. They blame JOHN KERRY and JOHN EDWARDS for wanting to fight for a stronger and more positive America. But never will they ac-

cept the responsibility for egregious policies that they have passed. They are doing everything possible to create a diversion and shift attention somewhere else.

Democrats are fighting for the middle-class values of fairness and responsibility. Republicans are still pushing the same old negative attack ads.

WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION IN IRAQ

(Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, for months now, critics of the war in Iraq have asked the question: Where are the weapons of mass destruction? Recently former Vice President Al Gore said that none have been found in Iraq. Just as he was wrong when he said he was the inventor of the Internet, he is wrong on this point as well.

Recently, Charles Duelfer, the head of the Iraq Survey Group, reported the finding of 12 mustard and sarin gas shells in various locations in Iraq. Intelligence sources say that these are still extremely dangerous shells.

Mr. Duelfer also reported that terrorists in Iraq are trying to tap into the Iraqi WMD intellectual capital. They are keenly interested in developing chemical weapons in there and also in Afghanistan.

So where are the weapons of mass destruction? Where they have always been, in the Iraqi area, within the reach of terrorists, a threat to U.S. troops, the region, and the world community as well.

SAVE OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to the last speaker the weapons of mass destruction are in the minds of the administration.

If anyone needs a reason to send this administration packing, here it is: the President has announced the biggest land grab in U.S. history. The beneficiaries are the big timber companies. The victims are our national forests and the American people.

The President has proposed new rules that would declare open season for big timber companies to log 58 million acres of our most precious wilderness areas and our most precious national forests. Roads to nowhere will scar the land forever. It will turn old growth into board feet, two by fours.

Unless we act, this administration will repeal the last protection of our wilderness areas.

□ 1015

Our only hope is for a new administration that can prevent this environmental disaster from happening.